

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
UTILITY DIVISION
AGENDA NO. 03-12-16**

Date Published: December 11, 2003

For Work Week Commencing: December 15, 2003

Commission Meeting: December 16, 2003, 9:00 a.m.

General Introduction This agenda is the Commission's Utility Division agenda for the work week designated. In the later part of each week (generally, Thursday by 2:00 p.m.) prior to the work week to which an agenda pertains, the agenda is posted on the public information bulletin board at the Commission offices, deposited in the mail directed to all persons who have properly requested notice by mail, emailed to all persons who have properly requested notice by email, and posted to the Public Service Commission's worldwide web site located at <http://www.psc.state.mt.us>.

Place of Meetings All meetings are held at the Commission offices, 1701 Prospect Avenue, Helena, Montana, unless otherwise noted.

Inquiries General inquiries concerning this Utility Division agenda and subscribing to notice by mail may be made to Steve Vick at (406) 444-6187. He may refer inquiries to another person within the agency.

Accommodation for Persons with Disabilities Anyone needing an accommodation for physical, hearing, or sight impairment in order to attend a scheduled meeting should contact the Commission secretary at (406) 444-6199 sufficiently prior to the meeting to allow accommodations to be made.

9:00 a.m. Weekly Scheduling (Commission Conference Room)

9:30 a.m. Business (Bollinger Room)

Public Comments

Action Items All items identified below are for action at the Commission business meeting.

1. Qwest Communications N2003.12.166 (Scott)

On December 1, 2003, Qwest filed tariff transmittal 03-34, Bulk Uniform Access Solution (Bulk UAS), Basic Digital Switched Service (Basic DSS), Bulk Advanced Digital Switched Service (Bulk Advanced DSS), and Bulk Primary Rate Service (Bulk PRS) Promotion. During the proposed promotional period from January 5, 2004, through March 31, 2004, customers who install new service renew existing contracts or convert from month-to-month to contract pricing will be given a one month credit per span on a 3-year contract or a two month credit on a 5-year contract. The credit will be given on their next month's bill, after implementation of the contract.

Work Sessions All items identified below are for Commission discussion or action on the day designated.

1. D2003.12.170 – Western Montana Local Calling Coalition – Application for EAS. (12/16/03)
2. D2003.8.114 – LGC, MCC, & Energy Share – USB Funds. (12/16/03)
3. D2003.12.165 – Energy West – Property Tax Tracker. (12/16/03)
4. D2003.8.109 – MCC/PSC – Investigation of NorthWestern Energy Financial and Related Transactions. (12/16/03)
5. NorthWestern Energy – Placeholder to get Direction on any Matter Related to the Bankruptcy. (12/16/03)
6. D2003.7.87 – Attorney General/Flathead Electric Cooperative/Roes 1-1000. (12/16/03)

Other Meetings

12/16/03 – 1:30 p.m. – Natural Gas NOI (Bollinger Room)

Weekly Scheduling – Will be held at 9:00 a.m. on the day of the Commission Meeting

Notice Items All items identified below are noticed for public participation purposes. Unless otherwise stated in the text of the notice, the items will be action items on the next following agenda or a subsequent agenda and participation may be had by submitting written comments to the Public Service Commission, 1701 Prospect Avenue, P.O. Box 202601, Helena, Montana, 59620-2601, within 5 calendar days following publication of this agenda. Public comments on a noticed matter may also be submitted within the required time through the PSC's web-based comment form at <http://psc.state.mt.us/PublicComment/PublicComment.htm>. Comments should reference the docket number of the matter.

1. Sprint Communications N2003.12.169 (Scott)
On December 5, 2003, Sprint filed changes to its price List No. 1. The purpose of this filing is to make changes to the terms and conditions for Dial-1 WATS.

2. VALLEY TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. N2003.12.167 (Leroy)

On December 4, 2003, Valley Telecommunications submitted revised tariffs reducing the monthly toll restriction rates to \$0.85. Previous monthly rates were between \$1.50 and \$5.00. The revised tariff adds a definition for Toll Restriction and clarifies the Terms and Conditions. Toll restriction will be provided at no charge to qualifying low income subscribers, as well as company initiated toll restriction. The tariff deletes the Direct Distance Dialing description since that service is included in the Full Toll Restriction descriptions.

3. PROJECT TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANY N2003.12.168(Leroy)

On December 4, 2003, Project Telephone Company submitted revised tariffs reducing the monthly toll restriction rates to \$0.85. Previous monthly rates were between \$1.50 and \$5.00. The revised tariff adds a definition for Toll Restriction and clarifies the Terms and Conditions. Toll restriction will be provided at no charge to qualifying low income subscribers, as well as company initiated toll restriction. The tariff deletes the Direct Distance Dialing description since that service is included in the Full Toll Restriction descriptions.

4. SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY L.P. MONTANA N2003.12.171
(Leroy)

On December 9, 2003, Sprint Communications filed changes in its current price list reflected on the 207th Revised page 1. The purpose of the filing is to introduce Sprint Business Flex with All Calls All Day III and IV, make miscellaneous text changes and reduce FONCARD Surcharge for Sprint Business Flex with All Calls All Day V, VI, and VII. Sprint is requesting an effective date of December 16, 2003

Information Items All items identified below are for information only.

New Filings Received in Past Week

N2003.12.167 – Valley Telecommunications Inc. – Tariff Revisions, Section IV

N2003.12.168 – Project Telephone Company – Tariff Revisions, Section IV

N2003.12.169 – Sprint – Tariff Revisions to Price List No. 1

D2003.12.170 – Western Montana Local Calling Coalition – Application for Extended Area of Service

N2003.12.171 – Sprint – Changes to Price List No. 1